

SAVANNAH RIVER OPERATIONS OFFICE AIKEN, SC 29802

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June 4, 2013

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Savannah River Site Exceeds Waste Shipment Goals

AIKEN, S.C. – During the month of April, the Savannah River Site met two new milestone records towards analyzing, preparing, packaging and shipping radioactive transuranic (TRU) waste bound for a disposal site in New Mexico.

The Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Solid Waste organization completed thirty-two TRU waste shipments during April, including nine within one week, breaking a 12-year record at SRS.

"Even though we are now handling the more difficult material, I am confident that the team will continue to perform their work safely and see this project to the finish line" said Herbert Crapse, Department of Energy-Savannah River, Senior Solid Waste Program Manager. "Only about 700 cubic meters of legacy TRU waste remains here for certification and shipment to WIPP," said Crapse.

Since SRNS became the management and operations contractor at SRS in August of 2008, over 4,000 cubic meters of TRU waste has crossed the South Carolina border and is now buried in a natural salt formation at the Department of Energy's Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) near Carlsbad, N.M.

"I've managed this program for several years now," said John Gilmour, SRNS Director, Solid Waste and F-Area Operations. "The teamwork, dedication and extraordinary work ethic displayed by these employees over this past month was truly amazing."

According to Gilmour, this is an outstanding achievement, particularly when you consider that SRS is now processing the most difficult Cold War TRU waste. This waste required the design, manufacture and certification of specialized shipping casks that could hold much larger waste items and disposal.

The Savannah River Site is owned by the Department of Energy. Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

Additional information on the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management and the Savannah River Site can be found at http://www.em.doe.gov or http://www.srs.gov.

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SR-201-03

